

VILLAGE OF CROTON-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK  
**COASTAL ASSESSMENT FORM**

**Section A - Instructions:**

Please print or type all answers.

The Local Waterfront Revitalization Program consistency review shall, as much as possible, be conducted simultaneously and in coordination with any SEQR review of the same action.

Whenever a village agency receives an application for approval or funding of an action, or as early as possible in the agency's formulation of a direct action, the applicant or, in the case of a direct action, the agency, shall prepare a coastal assessment form (CAF) to assist with the consistency review. The CAF shall be prepared and submitted with the environmental assessment form (EAF) and any other documents required by SEQR.

For any actions, the agency that receives or prepares the EAF/CAF shall refer the EAF/CAF along with any accompanying application and other documentation, within three business days of establishment of the lead agency to the WAC.

If any question in Section C on this form is answered "yes", then the proposed action may affect the achievement of the coastal policies contained in Article 42 of the Executive Law. Thus, the action should be analyzed in more detail and, if necessary, modified prior to either (a) making a certification of consistency pursuant to 19 NYCRR Part 600 or, (b) making the findings required under SEOR, 6 NYCRR, Section 617.9, if the action is one for which an environmental impact statement is being prepared. If an action cannot be certified as consistent with the coastal policies, it shall not be undertaken.

Before answering the questions in Section B, the preparer of this form should review the policies in the Village of Croton-on-Hudson Local Waterfront Revitalization Program on file in the village clerk's office and available on the village website. A proposed action should be evaluated as to its significant beneficial and adverse effects upon the coastal area.

**Section B – Proposed Action**

1. Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Site Location (address): \_\_\_\_\_
5. Site Size (in acres): \_\_\_\_\_
6. Present land use: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Present zoning classification: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Percent of site that contains slopes of 15% or greater: \_\_\_\_\_
9. List and describe streams, lakes, ponds or wetlands existing within or contiguous to the project site:

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10. Type of action (check appropriate response):

- (a) ☐ Directly undertaken (e.g. capital construction, planning activity, agency regulation, land transaction)
- (b) ☐ Financial assistance (e.g. grant, loan, subsidy)
- (c) ☐ Permit, license, certification

11. Describe nature and extent of action:

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12. Describe any unique or unusual land forms on the project site (i.e. bluffs, dunes, swales, ground depressions, other geological formations):

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13. Will the action be directly undertaken, require funding, or approval by a federal agency?

- (a) ☐ No
- (b) ☐ Yes If yes, what federal agency? \_\_\_\_\_

### Section C – Coastal Assessment

Instructions: Check either yes or no for each of the following questions. If the answer to any question is yes, complete Section D.

	Yes	No
1. Will the proposed action be <u>located</u> in or <u>contiguous</u> to:		
(a) Any of the resource areas identified on the coastal area map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Significant fish or wildlife habitats?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Scenic resources of local or statewide significance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Natural protected features in an erosion hazard area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) The shoreline?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action have a significant effect upon:		
(a) Any of the resource areas identified on the coastal area map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Significant fish or wildlife habitats?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Scenic resources of local or statewide significance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Natural protected features in an erosion hazard area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) Commercial or recreational use of fish and wildlife resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Yes	No
(f) Scenic quality of the coastal environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g) Development of future, or existing water dependent uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) Stability of the shoreline?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(i) Surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(j) Existing or potential public recreation opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(k) Structures, sites or districts of historic, archeological or cultural significance to the village, State or nation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action involve, require or result in any of the following:		
(a) Physical land along the shoreline, land under water or coastal waters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Physical alteration of two (2) or more acres of land located elsewhere in the coastal area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Expansion of existing public services or infrastructure in undeveloped or tow density areas of the coastal area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Energy facility not subject to Article VII or VIII of the Public service Law?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) Mining, excavation, filling or dredging in coastal waters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(f) Reduction of existing or potential public access to or along the shore?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g) Sale or change in use of publicly-owned lands located on the shoreline or underwater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) Development within a designated flood or erosion hazard area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(i) Diminish surface or groundwater quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(j) Removal of ground cover from site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(k) Development on a beach, dune, barrier island or other natural feature that provides protection against flooding or erosion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action be <u>located</u> in or have a <u>significant effect</u> upon an area included in an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. If project is to be located adjacent to shore:		
(a) Does project require a waterfront site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Will it supplant a recreational or maritime use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Will public services and facilities need to be constructed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Is it located in flood prone area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) Is it located in an area of high erosion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. If the project site is publicly owned:		
(a) Will the project decrease the public access to water related recreation, resources and facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) If located in the foreshore, will access to those and adjacent lands be reduced?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Will it involve the siting and construction of an energy facility?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Will it involve the discharge of effluent?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) Is the project site presently used by the community as an open space or recreation area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Yes	No
(f) Will the surface area of any waterways or wetland areas be changed (i.e. increased or decreased)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g) Does the present site offer or include scenic views or vistas known to be important to the community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) Is the project site presently used for fishing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Does any mature forest (over 100 years old) or other locally important vegetation exist on this site which will be removed by the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the project involve:		
(a) Any waste discharges into coastal waters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Surface or subsurface liquid waste disposal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Transport, storage, treatment or disposal of solid waste or hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) Shipment or storage of petroleum?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) Discharge of toxic, hazardous substances or other pollutants into coastal waters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the project affect any area designated as a tidal or fresh water wetland?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the project alter drainage flow patterns or surface water runoff on or from the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will project utilize or affect the quality or quantity of sole water runoff on or from the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Will the project cause emissions that exceed federal or state air quality standards or generate significant amounts of nitrates or sulfates?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SECTION D – Remarks or Additional Information**

1. For questions answered "Yes" in Section C, explain methods you will undertake to reduce adverse effects.
2. Review the LWRP to see if the project is consistent with each policy. List policies the project is not consistent with and explain all mitigating actions.
3. Attach separate sheet with explanation.

**SECTION E – Submission Requirements**

If any question in Section C is answered "Yes" AND either of the following conditions is met:

Section B.10 (a) or B.10 (b) is checked OR Section B.10(c) and B.13 are answered "Yes"

THEN one copy of the completed Coastal Assessment Form shall be submitted to:

New York State Department of State  
Coastal Management Program  
162 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12231

If assistance or further information is needed to complete this form, please call the Department of State at (518) 474 3642.

Preparer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Coastal Assessment Form – Railroad Tie Removal Project - Section D.

Section C

Question 1a, b, c, and e were answered yes.

Question 4 was answered yes.

Question 5d was answered yes.

Question 6e, g, and h were answered yes.

Question 9 was answered yes.

The project is located in the Croton Bay which is part of the coastal zone as designated by the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. The Croton Bay is designated is significant coastal fish and wildlife habitat. The LWRPs Policies 7A-7G, 9A-9B, and 11B relate to activities located within or near the Croton Bay. These policies were written to protect the fish and wildlife habitat of the Croton Bay, promote recreational usage and public usage, and protect properties located in designated floodplains.

It has long been a desire of the Village to remove the railroad ties located in the mudflats of the Croton Bay. However, there was a concern that the removal of the ties could cause environmental damage to the fish and wildlife habitat either through the removal process or the absence of the ties. The Village undertook a major multi-year project in conjunction with Hudsonia and Barry Vittor & Associates to determine if removal of the ties would have an adverse affect on the environment. After a number of years of testing both benthic macroinvertebrates and the bird population, it was determined that there would be no adverse environmental impacts from removing the ties.

The United States Military Academy Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering recently completed a feasibility study on the removal of railroad ties from the Croton Bay. The study determined an optimum method for removing the ties, similar to the method utilized in the pilot project. This would consist of the utilization of small, shallow draft, flat-bottomed boats used to transport removal crews there the tie and tie fragments could be lifted out of the mud flats and transported to shore. This method will not require any dredging or heavy equipment and there will be minimal disturbance of the mud flats.

It is intended that this project will occur during the fall to have minimal impact on bird and macroinvertebrate population. In addition, Metro North has committed to fund the disposal of the ties, which are classified as construction & demolition debris.

This project should have a beneficial effect on the Croton Bay. The visual blight of the railroad ties during low tide will be reduced and the safety of boaters will be increased by removing potential obstructions as boaters navigate the Croton Bay.